

## THE PAUPER OF PARK LANE

By WILLIAM Le QUEUX.

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## CHAPTER XXXIX.

## The City of Unrest.

Ten days had passed since Charlie had met the mysterious Lorena in Paris. To both Charlie and Max—though now separated by the breadth of Europe—they had been breathless, anxious, never-to-be-forgotten days.

The ominous words of Lorena ever recurred to him. Apparently the girl knew far more than she had told him, and her declaration that confirmation of Adams' charges would be found beyond that white enameled door in Park Lane gripped his senses. He could think of nothing else.

She had left him in the Rue de Rivoli, outside the Gardens, refusing her address or any further account of herself. She had warned him—that was, she said, all-sufficient.

He blamed himself a thousand times for not having followed her; for not having sought some further information concerning the peril of old Sam Statham.

Yet the afternoon following, just as he was about to drive from the Grand Hotel to the Gare du Nord, to return to London, one of the clerks from Old Broad street had arrived, bearing a letter from the head of the firm, giving him instructions to proceed to Serbia at once and transact certain business with the government regarding certain copper concessions in the district of Kaopank. The deal meant the introduction of a considerable amount of British capital into Serbia, and had support from his majesty King Peter downward. Indeed, all were in favor, save the opposition in the Skupchina, or Parliament, a set of unruly peasants who opposed every measure the Pashitch government put forward.

The business brooked no delay. Therefore Charlie, that same night, entered the Orient express, that train of dusty wagons—it which runs three times a week between Paris and Constantinople, and three days later arrived in Belgrade, the Serbian capital.

He was no stranger in that rather pleasant town, perched high up at the junction of the Save with the broad Danube. The passport officer at Semlin Station recognized him in the National Bank of once, and on alighting at Belgrade the little ferret-eyed man idling outside the station did not follow him, for he knew him by sight and was well aware that the Grand Hotel was his destination.

There are more spies in Belgrade than in any other city in Europe. So much foreign intrigue is ever in progress that the Serbian authorities are compelled to support a whole army of secret agents to watch and report. Hence it is that the stranger, from the moment he sets foot in Belgrade to the moment he leaves it, is watched, and his every movement noted and reported. Yet all is so well managed that the foreigner is not aware of the close surveillance upon him, and Belgrade is as gay a town in the matter of entertaining and general freedom as well, as any other you may choose to name.

During the days when, owing to the unfortunate events which terminated the reign of the half-imbecile King Alexander and the designing woman who became his Queen, when England had suspended diplomatic negotiations, the great stakes held in the country by Statham Brothers were in a somewhat precarious condition. For two years Serbian finance had been in anything but a flourishing condition, but now, under the rule of King Peter, who had done his very utmost to renege his country in its former flourishing position, the confidence of Europe had been restored, and Statham Brothers were ready to make further investments.

In Charlie Rolfe the great millionaire had the most perfect confidence. The latter had sent him to Paris with clear and explicit instructions. If the concessions were confirmed by the Prime Minister Pashitch and the council, a million dinars (or francs) were already deposited in the National Bank of Serbia, and could be drawn at an hour's notice upon Charlie's signature.

So he drove to the Grand, the hotel with its great garish cafe, its restaurant where the sterner is perhaps more delicious than at the Hermitage in Moscow, and its excellent Fziziane band. It was evening, so he ate a light meal, and, fagged out by the journey, retired early.

He tried to sleep, but could not. The noise and clatter of the cafe below, the weird strains of the gypsy music, the rattle of the cabs over the cobble, all combined to prevent slumber.

And, over all, was the vivid recollection that that rather handsome girl who had called herself Lorena, and who he had declared that the reason of Statham's peril lay behind the door which he always kept so carefully secured.

The hours passed slowly. He thought far more of Maud Petrovitch, and of what Lorena had told him, than of the business he had to transact on the morrow. He was there, in the city where Dr. Petrovitch had been worshipped almost as a demigod, where the people cheered lustily as he drove out, and where he was called "The Serbian Patriot." Where was the statesman now? What was the actual truth of that sudden disappearance?

Why had not Maud written? Surely she might at least have trusted him with her secret!

The noise below had died away, and he knew that it must be 2 o'clock in the morning, the hour when the cafe closed. Presently there came a rap at his door, and the night porter handed him a telegram. He tore it open mechanically, expecting it to be in cipher from old Sam, but instead, saw the signature of "Max."

He scanned it eagerly, he held his breath. The news it contained staggered him. It stated that his sister Marion had been discharged from Cunningham's and her whereabouts was unknown.

"Have seen Statham, but cannot discover where your sister has gone. Can you suggest any friend she may have gone to visit? What shall I do? Am distracted. Wire immediately."

Marion left Cunningham's? Discharged, the telegram said. Was it possible, he thought, that old Sam would allow her discharge? He was certain he would not. He was his sister's friend, as he was his own.

Max's telegram added further to the burden of mystery upon him. What could it all mean?

Marion had evidently left Cunningham's and disappeared. He tried to think to whom she would go in her distress. There was her Aunt Anne at Wimborne, her cousin Lucy who had married the bank manager at Hereford, and there was her old schoolfellow, Mary Craven, who had only recently married Pelham, the manager of an insurance company in Moor-gate street.

Those three addresses he wrote on a telegraph form, urging Max to make inquiry and report progress. This he dispatched, and again threw himself down, full of dark forebodings.

If Marion had really been discharged, she was in some disgrace. What could it possibly be? That it was something which she dared not face was proved by the fact that she had not confided in Max. She knew Maud's place of concealment, without a doubt; therefore, what more natural than that she should have joined her?

The whole affair was a complete enigma, replete with the more tantalizing of the

distance which now separated him from London.

Next morning he arose, took his coffee, and went out along the broad central boulevard, gay and lively in the sunlight, thronged by well-dressed ladies and smart officers in uniforms on the Russian model—as bright and pleasant a scene as can be witnessed anywhere outside of Paris. Up the hill, past the royal palace, he went. In the royal garden, separated from the roadway by high iron railings, the band of the Guards were playing, and over the palace floated the royal standard, showing that his majesty was in residence.

Approaching the palace was a large square castellated building, painted white, and into this he turned, saluted by the gardener on duty. Ascending a broad flight of steps, he passed through the swing doors, presented his card, and was shown into the large antechamber of the president of the council of ministers, the strongest man in Serbia, M. Nicholas Pashitch.

The long windows commanded a wide view of the town, and the broad Danube, shining in the morning sun, while upon the walls of the somber apartment, with its floors of polished oak and antique furniture, covered with crimson plush, was a portrait of King Peter, and several full-length paintings of dead and gone statesmen.

"His excellency is engaged for a few moments with the Turkish minister," exclaimed a frock-coated secretary in French. "But he will give m'sieur audience almost immediately. His excellency was going to Ploet, but has remained in order to see you. He received your telegram from Budapest."

And so Charlie Rolfe remained, gazing out of the window upon the quiet Eastern town, watching the phantasmagoria of life up and down its principal thoroughfare. A company of infantry, headed by their band, marched past, hot and dusty, on their return from the early morning maneuvers which the King had attended, as was his daily habit; and as it passed out of his sight the long doors opened, and he was ushered into the adjoining room, the private cabinet of his excellency the premier, an elderly, pleasant-faced old gentleman with a long grey beard, who rose from his big writing table to greet his visitor.

"I am glad to see you, m'sieur," he said, and, as he sat down, he looked at his watch. "I will call upon you this afternoon. I'm sure I'm very much indebted to you for your excellency for this information."

And his spirits rose again at the thought that his sweet-faced well-beloved was safe and well, and that, in all probability, she was actually in that city.

Then, at the prime minister's invitation, Charlie seated himself, and explained

## REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR GIRL

By HELEN ROWLAND.

When perfect frankness comes in at the door, loves flies out of the window.

Every man knows he is not the heroic, fascinating creature his sweetheart pretends to think him; but he would rather be lied to by his dying day than to be told the brutal truth.

Of course people can't carry their party manners into marriage; but if they could, marriage would be more like a party and less like a prize fight.

A man forgets all about how to make love after ten years of matrimony; but it's wonderful how quickly he can get into practice again after his wife dies.

Might as well halt a Broadway car on the wrong side of the street as to halt a man on the wrong side of his vanity.

Don't flatter yourself because he calls every Sunday evening that it is a sign that he's getting serious. It may only be a sign that everything else is closed.

No doubt when a man puts his cheek against a girl's he always imagines that it feels as smooth as hers does.

Most men fancy that being married to a woman means merely seeing her in the mornings instead of in the evenings.

Love always comes to a man as a surprise; he feels like a person who has been hit in the dark, and his one thought is for a means of escape.

Men used to marry good cooks and flirt with chorus girls; now they marry chorus girls and hire good cooks.

A man is so suspicious about a woman's figure; he always gives her credit for pads, unless she is so stout that he feels sure she can't lace.

Some men are such bunglers at love-making that they can't make a sentimental remark without tripping over it, or take their hand or a kiss without making you feel as though they had taken your pocketbook.

The average man's ideas of what a woman ought to be are as old-fashioned and set as two china vases on a parlor mantle.

It takes a mighty dishonorable man not to lie to a woman about where he saw her husband the night before.

## PLACES OF INTEREST.

Library of Congress—Open 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. on Sundays and certain holidays.

Post Office—Open 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.; holidays, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.; Sundays, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.

Executive Mansion—Open 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

United States Capitol—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

United States Treasury—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

State, War, and Navy Department—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

United States Patent Office—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

United States Pension Bureau—Open 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

United States Post Office—Open 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

Washington City Post Office—Open 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.

National Botanic Garden—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Fish Commission—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Army Medical Museum—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

National Museum—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Smithsonian Institution—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

(including holidays).

Agricultural Department—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing—Open 9 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.

Washington Monument (555 ft. in height)—Open 9:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. (Elevator runs from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art—Open 9:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.

in winter; 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. in summer; Sunday—12:30 p. m. to 2 p. m., excepting in midsummer.

Admission free on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays; other days, 25c admission.

Government Printing Office—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Navy Yard—Open 9 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

Southwest Cottage, 30th st. and Prospect ave.

IN THE SUBURBS.

Zoological Park—Open all day.

Bridge and Park—Open all day.

Chevy Chase, Kensington, and Chesapeake Beach.

Naval Observatory—Open 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Mount Vernon (the home and tomb of Washington)—Open 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

Arlington National Cemetery—Open all day.

Fort Myer Military Post.

Falls Church and Fairfax Court House.

United States Soldiers' Home—Open 9 a. m. to sunset.

Cherry Hill Grounds, Tenallytown road—Open 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.

Cabin John Bridge, Catholic University, and Alexandria.

Great Falls of the Potomac.

When you have lost or found anything, telephone an advertisement to the Washington Herald and bill will be sent you at 1 cent a word.

WHERE TO DINE.

BEST TIP! DINE AT LITTLE HUNGARY

711 G St. Opposite U. S. Patent Office.

Before and After the Races.

Cafe and Restaurant for Ladies and Gentlemen.

First-class Austro-Hungarian Cooking.

Lunch, 12 to 2 p. m., excepting in midsummer. Dinner, 5 to 8 p. m., 50c.

Served by white waiters. Hungarians cooked every evening.

the nature of his mission. Monsieur Pashitch heard him with interest to the end. Then he said:

"Only yesterday his majesty expressed to me his desire that we should attract British capital into Serbia, therefore all that you tell me is most gratifying to us. Mr. Statham, on his last visit here, had audience with his majesty—on the occasion of the loan—because he found themselves perfectly in accord. The development of the Kaopank has long been desired, and I will this afternoon inform his majesty of your visit and your proposals."

Charlie then produced certain documents, reports of two celebrated mining engineers who had been sent out to Kaopank by Statham Brothers, and these they discussed for a long time.

Presently Rolfe said: "By the way, your excellency, have you heard of late anything from Dr. Petrovitch?"

"Petrovitch?" exclaimed the old statesman, starting quickly. "Petrovitch? No!" he almost snarled.

"He has been living in England quite recently, but of late—well, of late I've lost sight of him. I know," he went on, "that you and he had some little difference of opinion upon the customs war with Austria."

"Yes, we did," remarked the gray-haired old gentleman, with a smile. "We differed upon one point. Afterward, however, I found that my ideas were unsound, and I admitted it in the Skupchina. I heard that Petrovitch was in London. The King invited him to come to Belgrade about six months ago, as he wished to consult him in private, but he declined the invitation."

"Why?"

"I think he feared on account of a political conspiracy which is known to have been formed against him. As you know, the opposition are his bitter opponents. And they are opponents of his majesty also," Rolfe remarked.

"Exactly," he replied, "which for the peace of Serbia is most unfortunate."

"Then you have no idea where I could find the doctor?"

"Not the least. But—" and he paused, thinking for a moment.

"Well?"

"If I remember aright my wife told me that she had met his daughter Maud at dinner at the British Legation one night recently."

"Then she's here—in Belgrade!" Rolfe cried.

"I'm not quite certain. I did not pay much attention to what she told me. I was preoccupied with other things. But I will ask her, and let you know. Or you might ask the wife of the British minister. You know her, of course?"

"Yes," Rolfe answered, excitedly. "I will call upon her this afternoon. I'm sure I'm very much indebted to you for this information."

And his spirits rose again at the thought that his sweet-faced well-beloved was safe and well, and that, in all probability, she was actually in that city.

TO BE CONTINUED TO-MORROW.

## "A FIGHT OR A FROLIC?"



FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

The far Eastern situation has become such a complicated piece of world politics that it is the subject of discussion on all continents and in the Orient is the stage where the great drama of the future will be acted, and the United States is cast for a prominent part. Every American should become informed on this great international issue. There are 16,000 young Americans on our great Pacific fleet, and neither they nor their relatives and friends know whether their long journey will prove to be "a fight or a frolic." The time is ripe for enlightenment. To meet the general desire for a better understanding of this question, The Washington Herald has arranged for a comprehensive series of articles on the subject by Mr. Frederic J. Haskin, who, accompanied by his assistant, Mr. Louis Brownlow, will travel 20,000 miles in visiting Japan, Hawaii, and points along the Pacific Coast between Los Angeles and Vancouver.

This series will begin next Sunday, April 5, and will continue daily for several weeks. This great feature will be fully as interesting as a continued story. Watch for it.

## DAUGHTERS IN SESSION.

Society of Archonides Meet with Miss Smoot.

The daughters of Congress, or the Society of Archonides, organized a short time ago, and whose members are the daughters of United States Senators and Representatives, held their regular meeting at the home of Miss Smoot, daughter of Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, at 1526 Connecticut avenue, yesterday afternoon.

Arrangements were perfected for the coming-out ball of the society, and April 24, and the Arlington Hotel, were selected as the date and place. There will be about 150 invitations issued. Music will be furnished by a section of the Marine Band.

Among the thirty members present were Miss Bessie Lamb, president; Miss Gregg, third vice president; Miss Marion Chapman, secretary; Miss Stevens, treasurer, and Miss Foster, corresponding secretary.

## WOULD ABATE BIG FINES

Senate Committee Votes to Defer Commodity Clause Penalty.

The Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce yesterday agreed to report favorably the resolution offered by Senator Elkins, of West Virginia, in the Senate last week, extending the time for the application of the penalties for violation of what has come to be known as the "commodity clause" of the rate law, until January 1, 1910.

Senator Elkins' resolution extended the time for two years, but, at the suggestion of Senator Johnston, of Alabama, it was amended, fixing the date three months earlier. A letter was read from the Interstate Commerce Commission, approving the resolution. All the Commissioners, according to Chairman Knapp, were in favor of the resolution, except one, who was absent, but he was believed to approve it.

The clause referred to penalizes common carriers for carrying commodities which engage in carrying commodities produced by themselves in competition with producers along their lines. It was designed to prevent interstate carriers from owning and operating coal mines to the extent of monopolizing trade and crushing independent coal operators by discrimination in transportation.

At the time the law was adopted as an amendment to the rate bill an extension of time was provided to enable the roads to conform to the law by getting out of the commodity producing business. The extension was, thereupon, provided, and the time for the law to go into effect fixed for May 1, 1909.

Aue railroads are not yet ready to conform to the law. Senator Elkins took the view that unusual hardships would be worked by the enforcement of the law beginning next May. His colleagues concurred in this view. The penalties are severe, amounting to \$5,000 for each load of coal carried in violation of the act.

Another consideration that moved the committee to vote to postpone the penalty was to permit the United States Supreme Court to pass upon the constitutionality of the law, which has been called into question by pending suits. The act itself is not postponed or suspended, merely the penalties being stated. Commodity carrying will be unlawful after May 1 next, and the remedy of injunction will be available for those persons or corporations who claim injury from the railroads because of violations.

Paul Morton is Better.

Seattle, Wash., April 3.—Paul Morton, president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, who is visiting in Seattle, is suffering from ptomaine poisoning, but is better to-day and not in danger.

APRIL 4 IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

1800—Henry Hudson sailed in search of the North passage.

1794—The first newspaper printed in the United States at Boston, called the Boston News Letter.

1800—The legislature of Pennsylvania passed a law directing the poor to be sent to the most convenient school and their tuition paid.

1841—William Henry Harrison, President of the United States, died at Washington, aged sixty-eight.

1854—A combined force of American and English, 300 in number, attacked the Chinese imperial army at Shanghai, routed 10,000 of them, and burned their forts.

1861—Virginia convention, by a vote of 88 to 45, refused to submit an ordinance of secession to the people.

1863—Stage of Fort Pemberton, Miss., raised by the Federals.

1864—The Indiana militia, numbering 3,000, ordered by Gov. Morton to prepare for a threatened Confederates uprising in that State and in Illinois.

1894—The blind seismograph bill for the creation of "gas" money killed in the House at Washington.

1896—Atlantic coal made ordered by United States Supreme Court to submit books and contracts to Interstate Commerce Commission.

## SKANN-SONS &amp; CO.

8th St. &amp; Pa. Ave.

"THE BUSY CORNER"

Open Until 9 o'Clock To-night.

## First sale of tailored suits

\$24.75

Made specially for little women

Usual selling prices, \$30.00 to \$50.00 each

It is to be an extraordinary sale in every way. Great variety of styles. Great variety of materials. Great merit to all the garments. And great values. Besides, it is the first big special sale of suits for small women held this season.

The manufacturer is one well known to the trade for the perfect-fitting garments he puts out. Suits for small women are notably difficult to make. In all there are just 124 suits. Choice from the entire lot, \$24.75. The values range up to \$50.00. Second floor—Suit Section.

## ENDEAVORERS PLAN ELECTION

District Union Will Hold Session in June for that Purpose.

Missionary Department Reports Renewed Activity—All Branch Societies Hold Meetings.

The board of officers of the District of Columbia Christian Endeavor Union held its regular monthly meeting at the headquarters last Tuesday evening. It was suggested the union endeavor to secure some representative from the "Gypsy" Smith committee and from the playground committee of the Associated Charities to address the union at the May meeting. The regular monthly meeting of the union in June will be the annual election of officers and the annual social. The social will be in charge of the following committee: Miss Florence King, of the music department; Miss Flora L. P. Johnson, of the missionary department, and Miss Agnes Suman, of the junior department.

The missionary department of the union reports renewed activity along the lines of that committee. During the last few weeks leaders have been selected for the societies. Last Sunday evening the following persons represented the missionary department: Miss Thayer, of the Associated Charities, Church of the Reformation, Lutheran; Miss Hobart, of the Associated Charities, Kellar Memorial Lutheran; Miss Anna Tilton, of the Interdenominational Missionary Committee, North Carolina Avenue M. P. Church, and Miss Flora L. P. Johnson, Northminster Presbyterian Church. The New York Avenue Presbyterian Society reports that it has formed a mission study class, which will study "The Uplift of China," under the leadership of Miss Katherine Baird. A mission study class has also been organized at the First Congregational Church under the leadership of Mr. Max Ball.

The citizenship department of the union reports that committee has been represented at the societies the last week as follows: Mr. George L. Chandler, Temple Baptist, of the Eckington Presbyterian Societies and the president of the union at the First M. P. Society and the Central Presbyterian.

Mr. Samuel McComb, a Sunday school missionary from Sioux Falls, Iowa, will speak at the meeting of the Gurley Memorial Presbyterian Society next Sunday evening. Mr. McComb is an enthusiastic missionary, and this, as well as the church service, where he will also speak, to the extent of monopolizing trade and crushing independent coal operators by discrimination in transportation.

Endeavorers will no doubt be interested to learn that a new organization has been started in the southeast section of the city by the name of the Southeast Club. This club is principally for the young people of that section, and quarters where they can assemble and play games and participate in other amusements have been opened. It is desirable that the Y. M. C. A. and the Christian Endeavor Union, and other similar organizations co-operate with the enterprise and give it their support.

The Rhode Island M. P. Society held its monthly business meeting and social at the home of Mr. Sanis, 1715 First street, on Tuesday evening. Rev. J. M. Gill, pastor of the church, was present and opened the meeting with prayer. The business portion was conducted by the president, Miss Elsie Moore. At this meeting \$10 was appropriated for the purpose of aiding in the sustenance of a student at a theological seminary.

The Interdenominational Missionary committee of the District of Columbia, of which the Christian Endeavor Union is a representative member, held a meeting last Monday evening at the Y. M. C. A. parlors. It was decided the members of the committee provide, as soon as practicable, copies of the books that will be used in the interdenominational mission study the coming year and make themselves familiar with the contents of the books and the subjects treated. The next plan is movement then is to select leaders and organize classes.

The regular union meeting Monday evening at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church promises to be interesting. Rev. C. P. Wiles, pastor of the Kellar Memorial Lutheran Church, will speak on "The Young People's Missionary Movement." Miss Flora L. Johnson, superintendent of the missionary department, and Miss Nina Urner